



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: NORTH FORK WASHOUGAL WIER AND FISH HANDLING FACILITY

Description of Proposal:

The project includes development of a barrier weir just upstream of the existing adult collection ladder. The barrier will prevent fish from migrating upstream and guide adult salmonids, including steelhead, into the adult collection ladder. The project also includes modifications to the adult holding pond that will allow direct transfer of natural-origin adults, via a return pipeline, to a deep pool in the river near the holding pond. Natural-origin adults returned to the river could continue their upstream migration or hold until flows are adequate for continued upstream migration.

Design drawings provided by MWH Americas are attached. The project can be divided into three primary components: Work above OHWM; work below OHWM; and site restoration/cleanup. Below is a brief construction sequence and more detail about the primary components of the project.

Sequencing

- Install temporary erosion and sediment controls.
- Place Phase 1 cofferdam and divert river to the south.
- Remove existing rip/rap and excavate for north abutment.
- Construct north half of barrier weir and abutment.
- Backfill north abutment and construct low retaining wall.
- Install fish return pipe.
- Replace rip/rap.
- Remove Phase 1 cofferdam.
- Place Phase 2 cofferdam and divert river through stoplog section of barrier weir.
- Construct south half of barrier weir and south abutment.
- Backfill south abutment and place rip/rap.
- Remove Phase 2 cofferdam.
- Construct low earthen berm and hydroseed.
- Remove temporary sediment and erosion controls.

Proponent/Applicant:

Tim Ward (WDFW)
600 Capital Way North

Olympia, Washington 98501-1091

(360)902-8372

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: 391 Steelhead Road, Washougal, Washington, Skamania County; Northeast 1/4 of Section 32, Township 02 North, Range 05 East WM

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, state law¹ does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.² We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. This means we must receive your comments by **December 27, 2012**.

Method of Comment:

The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Email to SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

Responsible Official: Bob Zeigler

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/> Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Bob Zeigler at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call him at (360) 902-2578.

DATE OF ISSUE: December 11, 2012

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).